

House Resolution 985

By: Representative Smith of the 168th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending G. Max Gardner, publisher and editor of *The Baxley News-Banner*; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Max Gardner started working at *The Baxley News-Banner* in 1956 as a
4 "Printer's Devil." He soon became proficient at feeding papers through a four-page handfed
5 letterpress and operating the Linotype, which he operated for seven years; and

6 WHEREAS, over the 50 year span, Gardner has witnessed the newspaper industry progress
7 through the years from hot type to the present up-to-date computer pagination system; and

8 WHEREAS, Max has made contributions to his industry by serving first, his community, and
9 second, the Georgia Press Association. Gardner has been a member of the Georgia Press
10 Association since 1977, when he was named editor and publisher of *The Baxley*
11 *News-Banner*. He was elected and served as a director for the Georgia Press Association for
12 three years and also cochaired the Georgia Press Association's 100th Anniversary
13 Celebration; and

14 WHEREAS, Max has won many awards on the state and national level for editorial writing,
15 column writing, photography and others, including the Freedom Foundation Award for a
16 cartoon that stressed the importance of voting and the Georgia Association of Educators'
17 School Bell Award; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1985, Max and his wife of 47 years, Helen, purchased the Baxley newspaper
19 and *The Alma Times* outright from Community Newspapers, Inc. Max and Helen set some
20 objectives for *The Baxley News-Banner* that are still very much in practice today, "The
21 continuous growth of Baxley and Appling County through better government and education,
22 religious and moral awareness."; and

1 WHEREAS, Gardner said, "I have enjoyed these 51 years at *The News-Banner*, and hope that
2 I have made an impression with my beliefs. Thank God for allowing me this wonderful
3 opportunity."; and

4 WHEREAS, Max and Helen have three sons, Freddy, Timmy, and Jamie, and seven
5 grandchildren. He has served as a deacon at Midway Baptist Church for over 35 years,
6 president of the Baxley-Appling County Chamber of Commerce, president of the Appling
7 Exchange Club and graduated with honors from Brewton-Parker College.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
9 the members of this body do hereby commend G. Max Gardner for his outstanding
10 contributions to journalism in Georgia and wish him good health and happiness in the years
11 to come.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
13 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to G. Max Gardner.